

Message Text

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ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-06 AID-01 /030 W

-----122070 241717Z /43

O 241630Z MAR 78

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO AMEMBASSY MAPUTO NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE POUCH

AMCONSUL BUKAVU POUCH

AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8853

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP CG

SUBJ: CODEL DIGGS

REF: A. KINSHASA 2812 AND B. MAPUTO 361

1. DISCUSSIONS WITH GOZ HAVE REFINED AND SUPPLEMENTED TENTATIVE SCHEDULE TRANSMITTED REFTEL A AND CONFIRMED BY REFTEL B. GOZ HAS PROPOSED CODEL BE LODGED IN ITS VIP QUARTERS AT OAU VILLAGE. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS AGAINST THIS PROPOSAL BECAUSE OF RESULTING COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORTATION PROBLEMS AND SUGGESTS CODEL REMAIN AT HOTEL INTERCONTINENTAL. THE FOLLOWING PROPOSED REVISED TENTATIVE SCHEDULE IS TRANSMITTED FOR CODEL'S COMMENTS AND/OR APPROVAL.

2. MAR 29:

1350 ARRIVE KINSHASA UY801; GREETED BY GOZ FIRST VICE PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL NZONDOMYO;
PRESIDENT OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS
OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL KALUME; 3 MEMBERS OF THE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL (AS YET UNNAMED). POSSIBLE

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AIRPORT ARRIVAL STATEMENT TO PRESS.

DRIVE TO HOTEL.

1445 CHECK INTO INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL.

1515 LEAVE HOTEL FOR AMERICAN EMBASSY.

1530 BRIEFING BY AMB AND COUNTRY TEAM.

1630-1715 COURTESY CALL ON PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL - LIGHT REFRESHMENT.

1715 RETURN TO HOTEL.
1815 DEPART HOTEL FOR AMB RESIDENCE.
1830 RECEPTION IN HONOR OF CODEL GIVEN BY AMB.
2030 DINNER IN HONOR OF CODEL HOSTED BY ZAIRIAN
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.
2215 RETURN TO HOTEL.

3. MAR 30:

0730 DEAPRT HOTEL FOR PRES MOBUTU'S RESIDENCE.
0800-0930 BREAKFAST MEETING WITH PRESIDENT MOBUTU.
0930 BRIEF INTERVIEW OF CONGRESSMAN DIGGS BY LOCAL MEDIA.
0945-1045 WORKING SESSION WITH MEMBERS OF ZAIRIAN LEGISLATIVE
COUNCIL.
1100 CHECK OUT OF HOTEL.
1115 LEAVE HOTEL FOR PORT.
1130 DEPART KINSHASA BY SPECIAL FERRY FOR BRAZZAVILLE.
PROGRAM FOR REMAINDER OF DAY BEING PREPARED BY EMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE.
OVERNIGHT OLYMPIC PALACE HOTEL BRAZZAVILLE.

4. MAR 31:

MORNING PROGRAM BEING PREPARED BY EMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE.
1100 LEAVE BRAZZAVILLE BY SPECIAL FERRY FOR KINSHASA.
1200 INFORMAL LUNCHEON WITH SELECTED MEMBERS OF COUNTRY
TEAM.
1345 DEPART FOR AIRPORT BY CAR.
1415 ARRIVE AIRPORT. POSSIBLE DEPARTURE STATEMENT AND/
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OR PRESS INTERVIEW AT AIRPORT VIP LOUNGE.
1510 LEAVE KINSHASA FOR LAGOS VIA ET 781.

5. DR. YVON BONGOY AND REPS OF FINANCE, DEVELOPMENT AND
PLANNING MINISTRIES WILL BE INVITED TO AMBASSADOR'S RECEPTION
(REF B).

6 EMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE WILL ADVISE CODEL OF CONGO PROGRAM IN NEAR
FUTURE (REF B).

7. EMBASSY CONTINUES TO HAVE RESERVATIONS ABOUT RELIABILITY OF
ETHIOPIAN AIRLINES (KINSHASA 2656 (NOTAL)). WHILE RECENT ARRIVAL/
DEPARTURE RECORD HAS BEEN ACCEPTABLE, THERE HAVE BEEN PERIODS
IN PAST WHEN ETHIOPIAN AIRLINE AIRCRAFT DID NOT LAND KINSHASA FOR
FOUR CONSECUTIVE WEEKS. A THOROUGH EXAMINATION OF ALL CONCEIVABLE
ALTERNATIVES HAS CONVINCED EMBASSY THAT FAILURE OF ETHIOPIAN
AIRLINES TO ARRIVE KINSHASA ON MAR 31 AS SCHEDULED WOULD MAKE IT
IMPOSSIBLE FOR CODEL TO MEET ITS REQUIREMENT FOR ARRIVAL LAGOS
NO LATER THAN EVENING OF 31ST (STATE 3654 NOTAL). UNDER CIRCUM-
STANCES CODEL MAY WISH CONSIDER CUTTING SHORT ITS VISIT TO KINSHASA
AND BRAZZAVILLE SO AS TO TAKE PANAM FLIGHT 191 LEAVING KINSHASA
THURSDAY, MAR 30 AT 1825, ARRIVING LAGOS 2100 SAME EVENING. WHILE

SOME ITEMS ON PROGRAM IN BOTH COUNTRIES WOULD HAVE TO BE ELIMINATED,
PRIMARY PURPOSE OF VISIT (MEETING WITH PRESIDENT MOBUTU -
STATE 70748 NOTAL) WOULD STILL BE ACHIEVED.

8. COMMENT: PLEASE NOTE THAT MAJOR ADDITIONS MADE BY GOZ ARE CALL
ON LEG COUNCIL PRES AFTERNOON MAR 29 AND WORKING SESSION WITH LEG
COUNCIL MORNING MAR 30. LATTER MEETING COULD BE CANCELLED AND CODEL
COULD DEPART FOR BRAZZAVILLE SOON AFTER MEETING WITH PRESIDENT
MOBUTU IF CODEL DECIDES ON EARLIER DEPARTURE FOR LAGOS.

9. ACTION REQUESTED:

A. COMMENTS AND/OR APPROVAL OF SUGGESTED REVISED SCHEDULE
SHOWN ABOVE.

B. ADVISE WHETHER CODEL WISHES TO CHANGE PROGRAM TO ALLOW
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DEPARTURE PANAM FLIGHT 191 MAR 30.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978KINSHA02868
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780130-0788
Format: TEL
From: KINSHASA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780329/aaaaaxuw.tel
Line Count: 138
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 85f437be-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION H
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 KINSHASA 2812, 78 MAPUTO 361
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3213373
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CODEL DIGGS
TAGS: OREP, CG, (DIGGS, CHARLES C)
To: MAPUTO LUSAKA
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/85f437be-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014